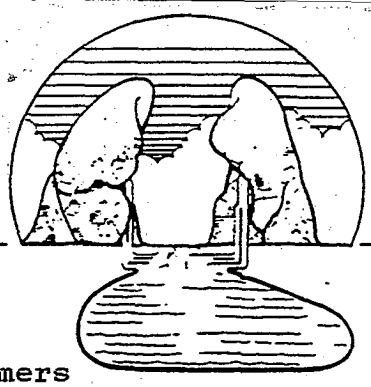
THE PULMONARY CIRCULATION



IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

Madison, Wisconsin
8–11 July, 1986

February 13, 1985

Dr. Sheldon C. Sommers
Medical Director
Council for Tobacco Research, Inc.-USA
110 E. 59th St.
New York, NY 10022

Dear Dr. Sommers,

This letter is long overdue but I still would like to get some feeling from you about how you might respond to being a major supporter of the symposium entitled, "The Pulmonary Circulation in Health and Disease." The event will take place July 8-11, 1986, here in Madison as a satellite of the XXX International Physiological Congress which will be in Vancouver beginning the 13th.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, SESSION CHAIRS

Burton M. Altura
Carl K. Buckner
Sidney Cassin
David R. Dantzker
Christopher A. Dawson
J.M.B. Hughes
Bryan E. Marshall
Johannes K. Mlczoch
John B. Richardson
Lewis J. Rubin
William M. Thurlbeck
E. Kenneth Weir
James A. Will, *Symposium Director*

We have a distinguished faculty who have agreed to serve as chairmen of the sessions. Many of them will also be speakers or overview presenters. In addition to the seven half-day sessions consisting of an overview plus four speakers each, there will be an opportunity for open communication in poster sessions associated with each session. We anticipate between 100 and 200 posters.

We expect to publish the symposium as a book which will be the most up-to-date comprehensive volume available. Because the book will include selected short papers from the posters, the new emerging directions will prolong the life of the book. A summary of the discussions of both the formal presentations and the posters will also add to this life. I believe this helped the last symposium publication as well. That volume of Experimental Lung Research is still cited as the definitive basis for the new work with the neuroendocrine cells of the lung.

The organizing committee for the symposium consists of myself as director, E.K. Weir, Minneapolis, C.A. Dawson, Milwaukee, and Carl K. Buckner, of Madison. You might recall that Dr. Weir just published a book with Jack Reeves on pulmonary hypertension, and that Chris Dawson was the author of the excellent review on pulmonary vasomotion in Physiological Reviews. Carl Buckner is the author of many publications on the pharmacology of the airways and the pulmonary vasculature.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
XXX INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
XXX CONGRES INTERNATIONAL
July 13–19 juillet 1986

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The other chairmen and the sessions they will preside over are: Bryan E. Marshall, University of Pennsylvania, with Chris Dawson; Pulmonary Hemodynamics; Sidney Cassin, University of Florida, with Ken Weir; Mechanisms of Pulmonary Hypertension; John B. Richardson, Montreal and William M. Thurlbeck, Vancouver for Morphology, Kenneth L. Brigham, Vanderbilt, and Una S. Ryan for Endothelial Function, J.M.B. Hughes, Hammersmith, London, and David R. Dantzker, Houston, for Breathing and the Pulmonary Circulation; Johannes Mlczoch, Vienna, and Lewis J. Rubin, Dallas; and finally, Burton M. Altura, with Carl Buckner for the Pharmacology session. I think this is a rather distinguished group.

Speakers have been invited for several sessions, but all of the acceptances are not in. The list below are those I know of, but the chairmen have not informed me of confirmations as yet. The partial list is as follows: Gwenda Barer, Sheffield, John Butler, University of Washington, Wayne Mitzner, Johns Hopkins, Yuan-Cheng B. Fung, La Jolla, Marlene Rabinovitch, Toronto, Ivan McMurtry, Colorado, Barbara Meyrick, Vanderbilt, J. Michael Kay, McMaster, Michael Heymann, San Francisco, Richard Naeye, Pennsylvania, and Kees Wagenwoort, Amsterdam. I am certain that some of the chairmen will also be speaking. John Richardson and William Thurlbeck are giving the overview in their section, Chris Dawson is speaking, Bryan Marshall, Una Ryan, Ken Brigham, Mike Hughes, and either Burton Altura or Carl Buckner also are considering presenting. I believe that these people who have and still are making the major contributions to the field will make this symposium and book a success.

We calculate that there will be about 35-40 faculty involved. The cost of the symposium will be somewhere near $80-85,000. This includes travel expenses, symposium accommodations, all meals for these faculty, a reception for all participants, honoraria for the chapter contributors, secretarial costs for the publication, and a fee for the Medical School Continuing Medical Education Group providing all of the up-front money, registration services and all of the arrangements. I am applying for an NIH grant to cover the essentials, which comes to about half, and would like to find matching money somewhere else. I could try to put this together in several small chunks from 8-10 sources or I could look for a few larger contributors. I would prefer the latter and I personally believe it would be more effective PR for the contributors as well.

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One of the controversies I think should be settled is the one that plagues the morphologists. The Europeans believe that the high pressure installation and perfusion approach favored by Lynn Reid and her colleagues is wrong and destroys the landmarks needed to carefully assess the lung in relation to its pathophysiology. This controversy was a problem even before she emigrated. I think it is time we developed a consensus so that there is a standard to refer to. We used to believe we had a standard when an NIH workshop published their results about 10-12 years ago, but that information is no longer relevant.

The role of other putative transmitters and the influence of oxygen levels, calcium, and ATP can be brought together in this one symposium. Obviously there will be a bias through the selection of chairmen and speakers, but I hope we have done a reasonable job of trying to avoid personal views in this process. I purposely chose Richardson and Thurlbeck to chair and select the speakers for the morphology section because neither has been involved in the controversy.

I hope I have stimulated your interest to some degree at least. I am thinking of providing space at the symposium for the supporters to put up a display. This would give you an opportunity to show how you support projects in medical research.

Thanks for your consideration; I will contact you sometime before the end of the month.

Sincerely,

James A. Will
Professor

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